

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Previously Presented) An air duct register for use in a finished ceiling in a room for connection to a flexible duct about the ceiling comprising:

a manifold housing adapted for connecting to the duct located above the finished ceiling, said housing providing a fluid passageway from the duct to the room;

a ceiling clamp operably associated with the manifold housing for attaching the manifold housing within a hole of the finished ceiling, the ceiling clamp having an actuator accessible from below the finished ceiling; and

a removable manifold collar releasably attachable to the housing within the second access opening in the side wall, wherein the second access opening has a peripheral edge and at least one portion of the peripheral edge has an inwardly directed lip, and said collar has a double edged flange portion for securing to the inwardly directed lip.

2. (Original) The air duct register of claim 1 wherein the manifold housing is installed from below the ceiling and connected to the flexible duct located above the ceiling.

3. (Original) The air duct register of claim 1 wherein each ceiling clamp further comprises:

a thumb-cam for actuating the clamp.

4. (Original) The air duct register of claim 1 further comprising:

a removable manifold collar releasably attached to the manifold housing.

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5. (Original) The air duct register of claim 4, wherein the manifold collar includes a plurality of retaining barbs for connecting to the flexible duct.

6. (Original) The air duct register of claim 2 wherein said housing has a first access opening at one end for positioning in a ceiling and a second access opening in a side wall of the housing positioned 90° from the first access opening.

7-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) An air duct register for use in a finished ceiling in a room for connection to a flexible duct above the ceiling comprising:

a manifold housing adapted for connecting to the duct located above the finished ceiling, said housing providing a fluid passageway from the duct to the room;

a ceiling clamp operably associated with the manifold housing for attaching the manifold housing within a hole of the finished ceiling, the ceiling clamp having an actuator accessible from below the finished ceiling; and

a removable manifold collar releasably attachable to the housing within the second access opening in the side wall, wherein the manifold collar has a through aperture sized to correspond with the flexible duct and defined by a peripheral wall, wherein one end of the wall has a plurality of retaining barbs for connecting to the flexible duct.

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10. (Previously Presented) An air duct register for use in a finished ceiling in a room for connection to a flexible duct above the ceiling comprising:

a manifold housing adapted for connecting to the duct located above the finished ceiling, said housing providing a fluid passageway from the duct to the room;

a ceiling clamp operably associated with the manifold housing for attaching the manifold housing within a hole of the finished ceiling, the ceiling clamp having an actuator accessible from below the finished ceiling; and

a removable manifold collar releasably attachable to the housing within the second access opening in the side wall, further comprising a rotatable door releasably attachable to the manifold collar wherein said door is positionable between a fully open and a fully closed position.

11. (Original) The air duct register of claim 9, wherein the other end of the peripheral wall forms a ledge for receiving a releasably attachable door.

12. (Original) The air duct register of claim 10, wherein the door is movable to a position from fully opening the passageway through fully closing the passageway.

13. (Original) The air duct register of claim 1, wherein the manifold housing has a radiused and smooth interior for the fluid passageway.

14. (New) An air duct register for use in a finished ceiling in a room adapted to be connected to a flexible duct extending above the finished ceiling comprising:

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a manifold housing having an upper portion adapted to be connected to said flexible duct and having a bottom portion adapted to be fit into an opening in said ceiling, said manifold housing substantially enclosing a space defining passageway directing airflow from said duct into the room;

a bottom opening at said bottom portion of said manifold housing for discharging air flow through said ceiling opening with said housing bottom portion in position within said ceiling opening;

said manifold housing further including a side wall piece normally in a position covering a side opening in said manifold housing but readily detachable and able to be drawn into the inside of said manifold housing, said side piece configured to be movable in and out of said manifold housing through said bottom opening;

said side wall piece having a collar extending around a duct opening therein projecting outwardly when said side wall piece is located in said position covering said side opening; and,

a ceiling mounting arrangement carried by said manifold housing for securing said manifold housing to the finished ceiling, said ceiling mounting arrangement accessible from below the finished ceiling to enable mounting of said manifold housing to said finished ceiling, whereby a flexible duct can be pulled through said manifold housing side opening with said side piece detached and out through said housing bottom opening and finished ceiling opening, and thereafter attached to said side wall piece collar with said side wall piece separated from said manifold housing, said side wall piece and attached flexible duct thereafter being able to be pushed back

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through said manifold housing bottom opening and said side wall piece attached to said manifold housing in said position covering said manifold housing side opening.

15. (New) The air duct register of claim 14 wherein the manifold housing is configured to be inserted up through said finished ceiling opening from below said finished ceiling.

16. (New) The air duct register of claim 14 wherein said ceiling housing arrangement comprises a pair of ceiling clamps mounted to said bottom portion of said manifold housing; and

each ceiling clamp includes a thumb screw having a head manually rotatable to actuate a clamping member to engage and grip an adjacent section of said finished ceiling.

17. (New) The air duct register of claim 14, wherein said side wall piece and said manifold housing have interfit portions locating and holding said side wall piece in said position covering said side opening

18. (New) The air duct register of claim 17, wherein said manifold housing and side wall piece interfit portions are snap fit together to make said side wall piece releasably attachable to said manifold housing when positioned covering said side wall opening.

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19. (New) The air duct register of claim 18, wherein said manifold housing side opening is defined by a peripheral edge and at least one portion of the peripheral edge has an inwardly directed lip and said side wall piece has a mating double edged flange portion for receiving the inwardly directed lip therebetween when said side wall piece is installed covering said side wall opening.

20. (New) The air duct register of claim 19, wherein said side wall piece has a top edge received in a slot formed at the top of the inside of said housing adjacent said side opening and the bottom of said side wall piece has a deflectable tab projecting from said lip aligned with a slot in said housing side opening peripheral edge and snap fit thereto when said side wall piece is pushed against said peripheral edge of said side wall opening.